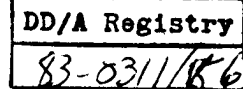




Washington, D. C. 20505



22 JUL 1983

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thurmond:

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 1983 concerning the design of our new CIA building at Langley.

The selected design firm has been under contract since December 1982. In our opinion, the firm has been doing an excellent job for us in providing creative and innovative designs, on time, and within budget. We have placed some unique and demanding technical requirements on them in the areas of security protection, energy conservation, and high reliability power and air conditioning. They have responded with new and innovative answers that reflect a depth of expertise and knowledge that has been gratifying. The architectural quality of the design is in the eye of the beholder, but we find it very pleasing.

The selected firm has been placed under contract for the total design effort. At this time there is no justification to terminate the current contract and resolicit a new design firm.

As I explained to Senator Tower in my 17 September 1982 letter on this subject, CRS/Sirrine was found to be a very capable firm, and we have great admiration for their work. The issue before me at that time was whether their capabilities were so superior to those of the selected firm that I should consider granting a waiver to the existing Agency policy regarding foreign ownership, control, and influence in companies with which we contract. While the shareholder in question was a minority shareholder in that he held less than 50 percent of the shares, it was also a fact that he was the largest shareholder.

In the final analysis, I could not see justification for making an exception in this case when the selected firm had been in business for over 100 years with a strong track record in

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The Honorable Strom Thurmond

designing large buildings similar to ours. I might also add that this same firm has designed the DIA building which is now nearing completion at Bolling Air Force Base.

I appreciate your continued interest in this project and extend the offer to visit us and view our plans when your schedule permits. Our people are excited and justifiably proud of the project design and the significant benefits it will provide us when completed. This letter is also being provided to Senator Tower.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence